

METHODS FOR REDUCING NON-SPECIFIC BINDING TO AN OLIGONUCLEOTIDE ARRAY

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 The present invention provides a variety of methods for reducing non-specific binding of a target molecule or plurality of target molecules to an array of oligonucleotides. The methods of the present invention include surface modification techniques and oligonucleotide modification techniques. According to one method of the present invention, non-specific binding of a target molecule to an array of oligonucleotides is reduced by
10 replacing at least one of: *i*) the protecting groups on each of the plurality of oligonucleotides, and *ii*) the protecting groups on each of the protected regions of the substrate, with a negatively charged phosphate residue.